$300 Down 'Bought' Them

Price of $500 was set on eight-year-old twins Thomas, left, and George by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Stillion of Houston, Tex., arrested yesterday after a detective and a policewoman paid $300 down. Mrs. Stillion, a divorcee who married her husband in 1954 and has had two children since, said: "You would think I had committed the worst crime in the world. I was simply trying to find someone to adopt them because we couldn't take care of them."

Your Health Department

Accidents at Home Due to Negligence

This is another article of public interest prepared for The Daily Colonist by the Victoria-Esquimalt Health Department.

Parents and health officials have taken great pains to see that children are protected against diseases like smallpox, diphtheria and whooping cough—yet we all may be negligent.

A recent Canadian study of home accidents showed that 95 per cent were directly due to degligence. In addition to every death from accidental causes, there are at least four accidents causing permanent injuries. Add to this less serious injuries and the load of suffering becomes truly overwhelming.

All children pass through definite stages of development. At each stage of development, the problem of accident prevention is different. The toddler, perhaps, needs even greater protection as his greater mobility allows him much broader range of potential accidents.

It is only as the child reaches the age of four or five that any degree of responsibility can be placed upon his shoulders. When a child enters school, he is out of the watchful eye of his parents and his early training in safe practices will pay off.

Pre-school-age children need sound teaching on how to avoid dangerous practices and activities. The growing child must learn to recognize dangers about him and must learn to play and work in such a way as to avoid them. Protection and gradual education are the only steps to a safe way of life.

Perhaps the more easily prevented accidents are those around the home. About one accident in three occurs in the home and it most frequently involves children and aged people. About half of all home accident deaths are from falls; burns and explosions are second, with poisoning mechanical suffocation and firearms mishaps following in order. These outrank all other causes of death among preschool children.

Russians Release Convoy

HELMSTEDT, Germany (AP)—Soviet authorities Wednesday night turned loose a U.S. Army truck convoy they had held in East Germany for 53 hours.

The four-truck convoy and its five soldiers rolled into West Germany after the U.S. state department had delivered a stiff protest in Moscow against any interference with the Western Allies' access to Berlin.

They were detained Monday afternoon when the Soviet Army demanded an inspection of the cargoes, old jeeps.

Briggs Fazed Socreds—Gargrave

'Baffled by Honest Man'

H. Lee Briggs, the former B.C. Power Commission general manager who was fired from his job for making statements against the government, "baffled this (Socred) government because he was an honest man," Tony Gargrave (CCF—Mackenzie) told the legislature yesterday.

He described Mr. Briggs as "politically naive, but honest."

POLICY A MESS

"The power policy in the province is a mess. Frankly, this government can't be trusted to deal with international financiers or business men. Anybody with a carpet bag and a few dollars can come to this province, tell the government a colorful story and we give half the province away," Mr. Gargrave charged.

"We can get and will get development of this province without selling our children's heritage for a mess of pottage such as international confidence men peddle to this government from time to time."

Mr. Gargrave was apparently referring to the Wenner Gren Peace River development.

He described the Briggs case as one of three scandals which struck the B.C. government this year.

Another scandal, he said, was the withholding from the House and its members of the annual report of the mental health department.

The other was a cabinet minister (former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers) being sent to jail, he said.

POOR ADVICE

He said the government had grossly mishandled the Sommers case and said it had received poor advice on this . . . legally, morally and politically.

"If the government had dealt with this the day it arose, I wouldn't be talking about it now," he said.

Mr. Gargrave asked the government to arrange for MLAs to get legal leaves of absence from their employers, because people are reluctant to run for office because they may lose seniority on jobs.

He referred to speeches by Highways Minister Gaglardi and Archie Gibbs (Lib., Oak Bay) on Tuesday when both men attacked labor.

"I have been a member of trade unions since I was 19 and as far as I know there are no Hoffas or labor gangsterism in B.C.," he said. "All of us must be careful in making statements.

"Once labor leaders don't do a job for the members, the workers don't let them stay in very long," he said.

FERRY STRIKERS

Speaking about recent ferry strikes, he said, "I hope the SIU has improved its grievance procedure so we don't get a strike every time there is a disagreement with the cigar stand operator."

He called for an end to segregated schools for Indians in British Columbia and for equality for Indians in the purchase of liquor.

SELDOM SEEN

The $10,000 U.S. currency note—not in general circulation — has the portrait of Salmon P. Chase, treasury secretary in 1861.

Worked Once, Reds Say

Farms Need Young Love

MOSCOW (Reuters) — How ya gonna keep 'em down on the collective farm?

Send girls, answered Kimsomol Pravda Wednesday.

The Young Communist League newspaper urged girls to live in remote "virgin land" areas of central Russia where the shortage of women is forcing too many men away.

Besides, said the appeal, when girls came out temporarily last summer, "many young men began to wash more carefully, shave more often and pay more attention to themselves."

Huge Marquee Falls, Kills Two

QUEBEC (CP)—Half of a 300-foot-long marquee loaded with fresh wet snow and winter carnival decorations collapsed on a busy shopping boulevard Wednesday killing two persons and injuring 10, one seriously.

"There was no warning sound, it was like a clap of thunder," said Salim Jarjour, 64, who had one foot grazed by the falling department store marquee.

Hundreds of noon-hour shoppers and office workers witnessed the disaster.

Dead are Miss Therese Lamarche, 35, and Henri Zicat, 43, both of Quebec City.

Police said the woman had a broken neck and fractured legs. The man was "literally crushed."

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